

Need for a fly-over at Sankarankovil-Rajapalayam Level Crossing in Tenkasi, Tamil Nadu

DR. RANI SRIKUMAR (TENKASI): Sir, I wish to bring to your notice a matter of urgent importance related to Railways, which is pending for a long time in my Tenkasi Constituency and causing a great deal of suffering to the general public and residents of Sankarankovil. ? (*Interruptions*)

Sir, Sankarankovil, located in my Constituency, which is popularly known as a Temple City is a Grade-1 Municipality and a developing city. ? (*Interruptions*) There is a railway level crossing at the Sankarankovil-Rajapalayam State Highway, which is a nightmare for the people in that region as it creates frequent road blocks and traffic congestion every day. ? (*Interruptions*) There are 12 regular and four express trains which go this way every day. Additionally, there are four weekly trains that crosses this level crossing. ? (*Interruptions*) Every two hours, a train cross from this level crossing because of which traffic gets choked for another half an hour every time. There are more than 50,000 vehicles of various types which cross this level crossing every day. There are four big schools in the surroundings, and around 5,000 students use this level crossing to go to their schools and get back to their homes again. ? (*Interruptions*) There are Government employees working in the nearby Power Station, Block Development Office and private companies situated in the surroundings. ? (*Interruptions*) Apart from this, there are small street vendors and farmers taking their vegetables and flowers to the nearby markets who suffer losses because of the waiting at this level crossing. ? (*Interruptions*) Even the patients or the ambulances cannot cross this level crossing easily because of the traffic jam that happens every day. The senior citizens and children are the worst sufferers. ? (*Interruptions*)

Therefore, I request the Union Government, through you, to take necessary steps immediately and construct a flyover at the Sankarankovil-Rajapalayam highway, engineering a special class level crossing number 472 at Sankarankovil, Tenkasi district. Thank you. ? (*Interruptions*)